

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1 (Currently Amended)

A self contained and complete personnel guidance and location control system for guiding a group of walking pedestrian individuals into a line thereof and controlling movement thereof, said guidance and location control system comprising:

- a) ~~a~~ at least one ground cover substrate for disposition on a ground surface;
- b) at least one end of line element associated with an endmost of said cover substrate substrates if more than one and in a fixed location thereon for defining an end of a line of the group of walking pedestrian individuals and representing a waiting location for the individual at the front end of the line so that the individuals may proceed to a destination in advance of the front end of the line in an orderly and ~~succession~~ successive manner;
- c) ~~a plurality of small discrete pair of spaced apart~~ path forming ~~elements~~ members associated with each of said ground cover substrate substrates in a fixed location thereon relative to the end of line element, said path forming members defining pathway boundaries at the sides thereof and extending from regions in proximity to opposite ends of the end of line element to define a pathway of movement for the

group of pedestrian individuals and which pathway is sized and arranged to induce individuals to enter and proceed in said pathway;

- d) a plurality of movement indicator elements on said pathway between the spaced apart pathway boundaries and being presented in such manner to suggest that the individuals in the line walk in the pedestrian pathway and to depict the direction of movement in that pathway so that the individuals move to the end of the line position, said movement indicator elements cooperating with the path forming elements to present a desired pathway and a direction of movement to an end of a line position and to a destination in advance of that end of the line position; and

~~d)e)~~ means associated with said end of line element and small discrete path forming ~~elements~~ members for locating same with the cover ~~substrate~~ substrates, whereby the ground cover substrate and end of line element and ~~small-discrete~~ path forming ~~elements~~ members can be located on the ground surface presenting the desired pathway of movement to enable the orderly and controlled movement of a group of walking pedestrian individuals into one or more lines of pedestrian individuals to a destination;

and and where all of the components necessary for the guidance and location control system are incorporated on at least one or more of said ground cover substrates.

- ~~e) at least one upstanding guide post located in proximity to an edge of said ground cover substrate and at a region of the substrate when the pathway of movement changes direction; said guide post effectively defining a change in direction of the pathway and also cooperating with the discrete path forming elements which also show a change of direction to alert the group of pedestrian individuals in the pathway of a potential change of direction of the pathway in advance of reaching that change of direction.~~

2 (Currently Amended)

The personnel guidance and location control system of Claim ~~4~~ 28 further characterized in that the guide post comprises a plate and an upstanding member extending from said plate and located at the edge of one of said substrate substrates for fixed location at a change of direction of the path forming elements on the said last named substrate.

3 (Original)

The personnel guidance and location control system of Claim 2 further characterized in that said guide post is relatively light in weight and movable from one location to another.

4 (Currently Amended)

The personnel guidance and location control system of Claim ~~1~~ 28 further characterized in that said guide post does not primarily serve as a physical barrier but is visually apparent to guide the pedestrian individuals.

5 (Currently Amended)

The personnel guidance and location control system of Claim 1 further characterized in that a means is associated with the underside of the end of line element and with the underside of the small discrete path forming ~~elements~~ members for securing same to said at least one ground cover substrate.

6 (Currently Amended)

A system for controlling movement and standing locations for a group of pedestrian individuals in an orderly fashion and presenting informational messages in connection therewith, said system comprising:

- a) a ground cover substrate for disposition on a ground surface;
- b) at least one end of line element associated with said cover substrate and in a fixed location thereon for defining an end of a line of the group of walking pedestrian individuals and representing a waiting location for the individual at the front end of the line so that the individuals may proceed to a destination in advance of the front end of the line in an orderly and successive manner;
- c) a plurality of small discrete path forming elements associated with said cover substrate in a fixed location thereon relative to the end of line element and extending from regions in proximity to opposite ends of the end of line element to define a pathway of movement for the group of pedestrian individuals and pathway boundaries at the sides thereof, and which pathway is sized and arranged to induce individuals to enter and proceed in said pathway;

- d) a plurality of movement indicator elements on said pathway of movement between the spaced apart pathway boundaries and being presented in such manner to suggest that the individuals in the line walk in the pedestrian pathway and face in a way to depict the direction of movement in that pathway so that the individuals move to the end of the line position or wait at the end of the line position, said movement indicator elements cooperating with the path forming members to present a desired pathway and a direction to a destination;
- d)e) a first informational message and a second informational message and at least one of said first and second informational messages having information related to the purpose of the pedestrian individuals being controlled in movement, said first informational message being located at said substrate and which is substitutable so that said second informational substrate may be readily and quickly substituted at said substrate for said first informational message so that only said second message is visibly presented; and
- e)f) said substrate comprising at least a first layer of a relatively rigid material, which has a generally transparent portion allowing one of said

informational messages on said substrate to show therethrough such that a pedestrian individual being controlled in movement or in a standing position will be in a position to readily observe said informational message; said first layer providing sufficient weight to the substrate so that edges do not curl when disposed on a ground substrate; and

g) whereby all of the components necessary for controlling movement and standing locations for the group of pedestrian individuals are present at said substrate; and further where said message is visually prominent and may have relation to the direction of movement or standing location of the pedestrian individuals. ~~, and a second layer of a relatively flexible material secured to said first layer and which aids in allowing the substrate to be rolled and also to be treated as a rigid mat.~~

7 (Currently Amended)

The system of Claim 6 further characterized in that said first ~~information~~ informational message is located at an underside of said first layer and under said generally transparent portion of said first layer so that said first informational message appears directly through said first layer.

8 (Original)

The system of Claim 6 further characterized in that the element representing a standing or waiting position is removable from said substrate so that a new element can be substituted therefor.

9 (Original)

The system of Claim 8 further characterized in that said element representing a standing or waiting position is fitted into a recess formed in the ground cover substrate for holding same.

10 (Previously Presented)

The system of Claim 7 further characterized in that the first informational message is comprised of ink which is printed on the underside of the first layer.

11 (Previously Presented)

The system of Claim 7 further characterized in that the first informational message is printed on a sheet material located at an underside of said first layer and appears through a transparent portion of said first layer.

12 (Previously Presented)

The system of Claim 7 further characterized in that said second informational message can be substituted for said first

informational message by applying an applique to said first layer located over the first informational message.

13 (Currently Amended)

The system of Claim ~~6~~ 30 further characterized in that said first layer is comprised of a polycarbonate material and said second layer is comprised of an acrylonitrile butadiene styrene co-polymer and where said first layer has a thickness of no greater than one-fourth inch and said second layer has a thickness of no greater than one-fourth inch.

14 (Canceled)

15 (Currently Amended)

A personnel location and control system comprising at least one mat for disposition on a ground surface and for currently guiding and locating a group of pedestrian individuals in a pedestrian pathway and also presenting an informational message to said pedestrian individuals during the movement of the individuals or standing at a location on said mat, said mat comprising:

- a) a ground cover substrate for disposition on a ground surface;
- b) said ground cover substrate being comprised of
 - 1) a first layer comprising a relatively rigid and generally transparent polycarbonate material, said substrate being of sufficient weight and thickness that the edges of the substrate do not curl when laid on a ground surface;
 - 2) a relatively flexible second layer comprised of a styrene based copolymer material and being secured to said first layer, said second layer providing those properties which allow the mat to be rolled and which also provide some degree of rigidity to the mat; and

- 3) a bonding layer between said first and second layers to cause a bonding of the two to allow the substrate to be rolled or laid as a mat;
- c) a first informational message located on the underside of the first layer in such manner that the message is observable by pedestrian individuals during movement on the mat or at the standing location; and
- d) a second informational message adapted for being substituted for the first informational message to then only allow the second informational message to be displayed.

16 (Previously Presented)

The system of Claim 15 further characterized in that a group of elements is associated with said ground cover substrate to define a pathway of movement for guiding the movement of the pedestrian individuals or to define a standing location for each of the pedestrian individuals.

17 (Currently Amended)

The system of Claim 16 further characterized in that said group of elements comprises a plurality of small discrete elements defining a pedestrian pathway of movement for the pedestrian

individuals and an elongate element defining an end of the line position for a person at the head of the line of pedestrian individuals.

18 (Previously Presented)

The system of Claim 15 further characterized in that said first informational message is printed on the underside of said first layer and is located between said first layer and said second layer.

19-20 (Cancelled)

21 (Currently Amended)

A system for controlling movement and for defining a standing location of pedestrian individuals and presenting an informational message in connection therewith, said system comprising:

- a) a ground cover substrate for disposition on a ground surface;
- b) said substrate comprising at least a first layer of a relatively rigid material, which has a generally transparent portion allowing an informational message to show therethrough and which provides sufficient weight and a degree of rigidity to the substrate so that edges do not curl when disposed on a ground surface, ~~and a second layer of a relatively flexible material secured to said first layer and which aids in allowing the substrate to be rolled and also to be treated as a relatively rigid mat;~~
- c) at least one element associated with said ground cover substrate for representing a standing or waiting position for a pedestrian individual or a position in which an activity may take place; and
- d) ~~a first~~ an informational message located at said substrate ~~on an underside of said first layer so as to appear directly through said generally transparent portion of said first layer and which is substitutable so that a second informational message~~

~~may be readily and quickly substituted at said~~
~~substrate for said first informational message such~~
~~that only said second message is visibly presented~~
~~in the form of a plurality of footsteps which~~
~~provides information relating to a direction of~~
~~moving or standing, said second informational~~
~~message being substitutable for said first~~
~~informational message such that said first~~
~~informational message need not be removed from said~~
~~substrate but where said first informational message~~
~~is not observable, said first and second~~
~~informational messages message also being related to~~
the purpose the pedestrian individuals are standing
or walking on said ground cover substrate so that
the informational ~~messages message~~ and that the at
least one element operate cooperatively together.

22-23 (Cancelled)

24 (Currently Amended)

A system for controlling movement and for defining a standing location of pedestrian individuals and presenting an informational message in connection therewith, said system comprising:

- a) a ground cover substrate for disposition on a ground surface;
- b) at least one element associated with said ground cover substrate for representing a standing or waiting position for a pedestrian individual or in which an activity may take place;
- c) a first informational message located at said substrate and which is substitutable so that a second informational message may be readily and quickly substituted at said substrate for said first informational message in such manner that only said second message is visibly presented; and
- d) said substrate comprising a first layer of a relatively rigid polycarbonate material which is of sufficient weight and thickness that the edges of the substrate do not curl when laid on a ground surface, said first layer having a generally transparent portion allowing an informational message to show therethrough; and

e) a second layer of a relatively flexible material formed of a styrene based copolymer secured to said first layer, said second layer providing those properties which allow the substrate to be rolled and which also provide some degree of rigidity to the substrate which allows the substrate to be treated as a rigid mat.

25 (Currently Amended)

A method of controlling the location and movement of one or more pedestrian individuals on a ground cover substrate and forming such pedestrian individuals in a line of such individuals to an end of a line position and to a destination in advance of the end of the line position and simultaneously providing an informational message to said one or more pedestrian individuals, said method comprising:

- a) applying a ground cover substrate to a ground surface and having an upper surface on said substrate for walking disposition by said one or more pedestrian individuals;
- b) providing an end of the line or waiting position defining element on said upper surface of said substrate in a fixed position thereon to represent an end of a line position of the group of walking pedestrian individuals or representing a waiting location for the individual at the front end of the line so that the individuals in the line may proceed to a destination or to a waiting position in advance of the front end of the line in an orderly and successive manner;
- c) also providing a pathway of movement for the group of individuals by applying to said substrate a plurality of ~~small discrete~~ externally spaced apart path forming ~~elements~~ members associated with said

cover substrate in a fixed location thereon and extending in parallel lines of said path forming ~~elements~~ members relative to the end of line element and extending from regions in proximity to opposite ends of the end of line element;

- d) arranging said path forming ~~elements~~ members in each line to be spaced apart from ~~those in~~ the opposite line of path forming ~~elements~~ members to form a desired pathway of movement with the path forming members defining pathway boundaries at the sides thereof and to thereby enable the orderly and controlled movement of a group of pedestrian individuals into one or more lines of same to a destination or waiting position, also locating the end of line element and ~~small-discrete~~ path forming ~~elements~~ members on the ground surface to avoid obstruction and obtain an optimum pathway of movement; and
- e) providing a plurality of movement indicator elements on said pathway between the spaced apart boundaries and being presented in such manner to suggest that the individuals in the line walk in the pedestrian pathway and to depict the direction of movement in that pathway so that the individuals move to the end of the line position, said movement indicator

elements cooperating with the path forming elements to present a desired pathway and a direction of movement to the end of the line position and to an destination in advance of that end of the line position.

~~e) locating at least one upstanding guide post in proximity to an edge of said ground cover substrate, and which cooperates with the path forming elements to alert a pedestrian individual in the pathway of a potential change of orientation of the pathway and in advance of reaching that change of orientation.~~

26 (Previously Presented)

The system of Claim 15 further characterized in that said styrene based copolymer is an acrylonitrile butadiene styrene copolymer.

27 (Previously Presented)

The system of Claim 24 further characterized in that said styrene based copolymer is an acrylonitrile butadiene styrene copolymer.

28 (New)

The personnel guidance and location control system of Claim 1 further characterized in that said upper surface of said substrate is relatively free of elements which would obstruct the prominence of the end of the line element and the lines of path forming elements and the plurality of movement indicator elements so that the pathway is not visually obstructed, said pathway being visibly prominent so that the individuals desiring to reach a destination will be automatically induced to enter the pathway of movement in an orderly manner.

29 (New)

The personnel guidance and location control system of Claim 28 further characterized in that the width of the pathway is sufficiently narrow so that individuals in the pathway will not be inclined to walk in front of an individual who precedes them providing for an orderly movement of the individuals to a destination in advance of the end of the pathway, the end of the line element also being spaced apart from said destination so that there is no crowding of individuals at or around that destination.

30 (New)

The personnel guidance and location control system of Claim 1 further characterized in that at least one upstanding guide post is located in proximity to an edge of said at least one ground cover

substrate and at a region of the substrate when the pathway of movement changes direction; said guide post effectively defining a change in direction of the pathway and also cooperating with the path forming members which also show a change of direction to alert the group of pedestrian individuals in the pathway of a potential change of direction of the pathway in advance of reaching that change of direction.

31 (New)

The personnel guidance and location control system of Claim 1 further characterized in that said path forming members are each comprised of a plurality of spaced apart small discrete path forming elements.

32 (New)

The personnel guidance and location control system of Claim 1 further characterized in that the plurality of movement indicator elements are located at said mat and have a representation of a footprint to cause the pedestrian individuals to enter into and follow the pathway.

33 (New)

The personnel guidance and location control system of Claim 32 further characterized in that the movement indicator elements are footprints.

34 (New)

The personnel guidance and location control system of Claim 6 further characterized in that said substrate comprises a second layer of a relatively flexible material secured to said first layer and which aids in allowing the substrate to be rolled and also to be treated as a rigid mat.

35 (New)

The personnel guidance and location control system of Claim 17 further characterized in that a plurality of movement indicator elements are located on said pathway between the spaced apart pathway boundaries and being presented in such manner to suggest that the individuals arrange themselves in a line walk in the pedestrian pathway and to depict the direction of movement in that pathway so that the individuals move to the end of the line position, said movement indicator elements presenting a desired pathway and a direction of movement to an end of a line position and to a destination in advance of that end of the line position.

36 (New)

A self contained and complete personnel guidance and location control system for guiding a group of walking pedestrian individuals into a line thereof and controlling movement thereof, said guidance and location control system comprising:

- a) at least one ground cover substrate for disposition on a ground surface;
- b) said ground cover substrate being comprised of;
 - 1) a first layer comprising a relatively rigid and generally transparent polycarbonate material, said substrate being of sufficient weight and thickness that the edges of the substrate do not curl when laid on a ground surface;
 - 2) a relatively flexible second layer comprised of a styrene based copolymer material and being secured to said first layer, said second layer providing those properties which allow the mat to be rolled and which also provide some degree of rigidity to the mat; and
 - 3) a bonding layer between said first and second layers to cause a bonding of the two to allow the substrate to be rolled or laid as a mat;

- c) at least one end of line element associated with an endmost of said cover substrates if more than one and in a fixed location thereon for defining an end of a line of the group of walking pedestrian individuals and representing a waiting location for the individual at the front end of the line so that the individuals may proceed to a destination in advance of the front end of the line in an orderly and successive manner;
- d) a pair of spaced apart path forming members associated with each of said ground cover substrates in a fixed location thereon relative to the end of line element, said path forming members defining pathway boundaries at the sides thereof and extending from regions in proximity to opposite ends of the end of line element to define a pathway of movement for the group of pedestrian individuals and which pathway is sized and arranged to induce individuals to enter and proceed in said pathway;
- e) a plurality of movement indicator elements on said pathway between the spaced apart pathway boundaries and being presented in such manner to suggest that the individuals in the line walk in the pedestrian pathway and to depict the direction of movement in that pathway so that the individuals move to the end

of the line position, said movement indicator elements cooperating with the path forming elements to present a desired pathway and a direction of movement to an end of a line position and to a destination in advance of that end of the line position; and

- f) means associated with said end of line element and small discrete path forming members for locating same with the cover substrates, whereby the ground cover substrate and end of line element and path forming members can be located on the ground surface presenting the desired pathway of movement to enable the orderly and controlled movement of a group of walking pedestrian individuals into one or more lines of pedestrian individuals to a destination and where all of the components necessary for the guidance and location control system are incorporated on at least one or more of said ground cover substrates.